

## REMARKS

This Response is submitted in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated December 7, 2006, for the Amendment and Response originally timely filed on September 27, 2006 in response to the Office Action dated June 27, 2006.

### Response to Non-Compliant Amendment

Claims 1, 2, and 5 have been corrected pursuant to the Examiner's Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated December 7, 2006, and to the Examiner's remarks made during a subsequent telephone interview on January 3, 2007, to further clarify the previously submitted amendments made in the above-mentioned Amendment and Response. In the Notice and as expressed during the interview, the Examiner required removal of the brackets included with the amendments to punctuation in Claims 1 and 5, and the use of strike-through or underlining only to show deletion or inclusion of punctuation, respectively, and that additional spacing between added or deleted punctuation be included to clearly show the changes. In addition, the Examiner required the use of a darker colored lettering and lines to show any amendments. Accordingly, the claims are corrected herewith as follows.

In Claim 1, the phrase "d) calcining the catalyst powder obtained in step c)[[.]]]" from the Response to Office Action previously filed September 27, 2006 has been corrected to "d) calcining the catalyst powder obtained in step c) ,]" to show the addition of a comma at the end of the phrase, eliminate the use of brackets, and separate the added punctuation (comma) from the phrase for ease of viewing, to maintain compliance with both the Examiner's instructions in the Office Action dated June 27, 2006 (Claim Objection D.) and the above-mentioned telephone interview.

Also in Claim 1, the phrase "and f is determined according to oxidation state of each metal).}" from the Response to Office Action previously filed September 27, 2006, has been corrected to "and f is determined according to oxidation state of each metal ) . }" wherein for ease of viewing, additional spacing has been included to clearly show the removal of the parentheses at the end of the phrase after the period, and to show the insertion of a parentheses before the period, in compliance with both the Examiner's instructions in the

Office Action dated June 27, 2006 and the above-mentioned telephone interview.

In Claim 5, the phrase “according to the oxidation state of each metal~~[[.]]~~[[.]]” from the Response to Office Action previously filed September 27, 2006, has been corrected to “according to the oxidation state of each metal ~~)~~ ,” where additional spacing has been included for ease of viewing to clearly show the removal by strike-through of the period from before the parentheses at the end of the phrase, and to show insertion of a comma after the parentheses, in compliance with both the Examiner’s instructions in the Office Action dated June 27, 2006 (Claim Objection G.) and the above-mentioned telephone interview, and the newly added text in the claim.

Further, Claims 1, 2, and 5 have each been corrected to appropriately darken all amended text (deleted by strikethroughs or as underlined for added text) for improved legibility by the Examiner.

No new matter has been introduced by these corrections.

Applicants wish to note that all amendments requested by the Examiner’s explicit instruction in the Office Action dated June 27, 2006 were provided in the Amendment and Response filed on September 27, 2006 which was therefore compliant to the Examiner’s instruction, but wish to apologize for any apparent misunderstandings based on the format of the amendments. Accordingly, with entry of the present corrected claims, the Amendments should now be in compliance with the Examiner’s requirements, and should therefore be fully responsive to the Objections to Claims in the Office Action dated June 27, 2006 and the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendments. Accordingly, reconsideration and entry of the Amendment and Response submitted September 27, 2006 in response to the Office Action dated June 27, 2006 is respectfully requested.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Response or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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